

Friday Bulletin

News from the Alaska State Libraries, Archives & Museums

3/17/2017

This newsletter is available weekly and previous issues are available at <http://lam.alaska.gov/fridaybulletin>.

Submissions for the Friday Bulletin should be sent to patience.frederiksen@alaska.gov and may be edited for content and length if used.

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NEWS FROM THE DIVISION

Videoconference 3/28: Tax information online from the IRS

The Alaska State Library has begun a new videoconference series in response to requests for training librarians and others in providing egovernment services and government information. Freya Anderson and Daniel Cornwall kick off the “Gov Info without tears” series with an Online With Libraries (OWL) Videoconference:

Gov Info Without Tears: Tax Information Online from the IRS

Tuesday, 3/28/2017, 10-11am

Description:

“Join us on the OWL videoconference network to learn how to get the IRS forms and publications your patrons need quickly. Learn about personal information patrons can request for themselves online. Show your patrons how to contact the IRS and learn how to avoid giving tax advice. Feel free to share your experiences or fears in helping patrons access tax information.”

Libraries wishing to join this videoconference should e-mail OWL Video Conferencing Services at ua-owlvideo@alaska.edu.

The videoconference will be recorded. Future sessions will be quarterly and based on library input to be asked for shortly. Stay tuned!

Journeyman Archival Processing Program

During spring 2017 two journeyman archivists will travel to two Alaskan museums and offer six weeks of professional hands-on collection care. The journeyman archivists will organize, box, and prepare descriptive finding aid indexes of the historic archival collections they service. The two museums to be served include the Palmer Museum of History & Art and the Sheldon Museum of History & Culture, Haines. This project is funded by a National Historical Publications & Records Commission (NHPRC) grant through the Alaska State Archives and Alaska State Historical Records Advisory Board (ASHRAB), a Board which promotes the collection, preservation, and accessibility of historical records found in Alaskan repositories.



NEWS FROM L.A.M.S IN ALASKA

Valdez Museum Opens Calls for Exhibit Proposals

The Valdez Museum & Historical Archive has formalized its exhibit proposal procedure, by releasing an Exhibit Proposal form. Exhibit proposals will be reviewed annually each June by a selection panel of museum staff, with a goal to finalize the museum's exhibition schedule to planning five years in advance of exhibit production. Proposed temporary exhibitions may be related to the visual arts, regional history, environmental science, or any other topic that supports the museum's mission to preserve, present, and interpret the heritage and culture of Valdez, the Copper River Basin, and Prince William Sound, Alaska.

The new procedure has been implemented as a means of formalizing and standardizing the selection process for temporary exhibitions. Goldstein reports, "By planning well in advance with the exhibitors' input, the museum will be able to budget its funding and work plan more efficiently. The form will also help to reduce any bias in the selection process by evaluating proposed exhibits in the context of the museum's mission. This form will also provide the museum with content and cost estimates for grant-writing purposes, which is important for grants that have a longer lead time for applying." Goldstein also expresses, "I hope that this form will also encourage artists to think about how to present their own work, and how to develop a body of work that coincides well with the museum's programming."

The museum's Egan Commons gallery is a roughly 300 square-foot space accommodating a maximum of sixty linear feet of wall space, with permanent exhibitions in the adjacent Centennial Building portion of the museum. Interested exhibitors are requested to complete the [Exhibit Proposal Form](#); questions may be submitted to Andrew Goldstein, Curator of Collections and Exhibitions, at agoldstein@valdezmuseum.org, phone number (907) 835-8905.

Congratulations to Della Hall and Museums Alaska!

Museums Alaska has hired Della Hall of Fairbanks as its new executive director. The selection was made after a statewide search process. "The Board is thrilled to welcome Della to this position," says Molly Conley, President of Museums Alaska. "Della has been an active and engaged member of our board since 2015. She is a strong leader, a great communicator, and an excellent problem solver. Della knows the needs of our organization and has no shortage of ideas for pushing us to the next level. "

Hall, who holds an MA in History, with a Certificate in Museums Studies from the University of Delaware and a BS in History, Technology, and Society from the Georgia Institute of Technology, has worked in Alaska as an archivist with the Alaska and Polar Regions Collections and Archives, collections manager at the Pioneer Air Museum, curatorial assistant at the University of Alaska (UA) Museum of the North, and as a consultant at the Tanana Valley Railroad Museum. She will be responsible for providing a central office for Museums Alaska, administering two statewide grant

programs and assisting with the coordination of the annual conference held in conjunction with the Alaska Historical Society each fall.

Board member Angela Linn worked with Della at the UA Museum of the North for over two years: "Della is passionate about museums and has shown she is interested in helping to make Museums Alaska a more useful organization for a wider range of professionals. Museums Alaska is lucky to have her as our new Executive Director."

Della follows outgoing director, Bianca Carpeneti, who leaves the position February 15. Bianca will continue her work with the Alaska Legislature and looks forward to helping out with Museums Alaska as an engaged member. (Reprinted from Alaska State Council on the Arts (ASCA) News, March 2017)

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Alaska Community Foundation Strengthening Organizations Grant (Rolling Deadline)

The [Alaska Community Foundation](#) (ACF) offers the [Strengthening Organizations grant program](#) with the goal of funding projects that will help Alaska nonprofits become better equipped to meet their missions. This program seeks applications for projects that will directly enhance the work of the applicant organization, making it stronger with well-organized systems in place and skilled employees who have the training and resources to successfully provide services.

Eligible nonprofit organizations apply for grants to build the capacity of their organizations. Eligibility is limited to 501(c)3 nonprofit, or equivalent, organizations located in the state of Alaska. Equivalent organizations may include tribes, schools, churches, local government agencies and programs.

To best position your application for success, applicants are strongly encouraged to speak with ACF staff ahead of time to discuss their project and to submit a draft proposal for review by ACF staff. Draft reviews are available. Please contact ACF program staff via email: grants@alaskacf.org or by phone: 907-334-6700 for a draft review. More information and links to the online application system are available at www.alaskacf.org. (Reprinted from Alaska State Council on the Arts (ASCA) News, March 2017)

Consumer Reports leads way on setting digital standard for tech products

Consumer Reports magazine is taking product testing to a new level as reported in the Ford [Foundation blog post Shaping a digital marketplace that puts consumers first](#) (Equals Change Blog, Eryn Loeb, 3/6/2017).

The new effort, called "The Digital Standard" is based at <https://www.thedigitalstandard.org/the-standard>. It is an ongoing effort to develop criteria and testing procedures in the areas of security (Is

it safe?), privacy (Is it private?), Ownership (Is it mine?), and Governance & Compliance (Are they good?). If you have reactions about this developing standard, we'd love to hear from you.

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